

Will of George Lowdell (1720 - 1805)

Withe serious Contemplation of death of my animal body and in the firm belief of a future state of immortality I George Lowdell of Brighthelmstow and now of Great Bookham in the County of Surrey do make this my last Will and Testament as follows Imprimis with the utmost Awe and Reverence I recommend my precious and immortal soul to the mercy of that most Gracious Being who created it humbly hoping for that Salvation which is promised in the Glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ ? I devise that my Body may be decently Buried with as little funeral parade as decency will permit and as to the worldly Goods which a kind providence has Blessed me with I dispose of them as follows viz. first I devise that all my just debts funeral expenses and the expenses of proving this my Will may be first paid Secondly I give to my wife Alice Lowdell one annuity of sixty pounds of good and lawful money of Great Britain to be paid by half yearly payments for and during the term of her natural life and I Charge all my Estates with the payment thereof and this annuity I give her in lieu and in ? of dower and I also give and bequeath unto my said wife Alice Lowdell all the Messuages or Tenements and Orchard with the appurtenances thereunto belonging situate in Great Bookham in the County of Surrey which was her own when I married her and I likewise give and bequeath unto my said wife all the household Goods Looking Glasses China Silver Plate wearing apparel Linen Books etc. which were hers before our marriage for her sole use and purpose and Benefit for ever and I likewise give unto my said wife Alice Lowdell all the Benefit that may arise from my Joynt Bond of Mr. ? Norman and Robert Norman bearing date of 6th November 1786 and in case my wife Alice Lowdell should die before me ? I give and bequeath unto her niece Jane Lumsdon after my death all the aforesaid Copyhold Estate with its household Goods China plate Linen wearing apparel Books etc. aforesaid and all my Benefit that may arise from Mr. ? and Robert Morrisons Bond bearing date of 6th March 1786 Thirdly I give to my

cousin Sanders Lowdell twenty pounds and twenty pounds to be equally divided between the four daughters of my cousin Stephen Lowdell deceased fourthly I give to my son George Lowdell all my Estates in the West Street Brighthelmstow and to my son Isaac Lowdell all my Estates in the Middle Street Brighthelmstow and my son Joseph Coventry Lowdell all my Estates in Gravel Land Southwark and as these Estates are not equal in value and as Isaac has already had my two farms called Chatham and Baldwins hill and George and Joseph have had nothing the Middle Street Estate will make great addition to the two farms and as my design is to divide my property equally between my three sons I propose and direct for this purpose that the two farms be estimated at the value of one thousand pounds and my Estates in Middle Street be valued by some persons to be approved of by my three sons and the valuation added to that of my two farms I also direct next my Estates in West Street and my Estate in Gravel Land all valued in the same manner and that so much money out of my personal Estate be added to these valuations as will make each of them equal to the united value of my two farms and the Middle Street Estate all the rest and residue of my Estate and Effects of what nature or kind soever they may be which I shall be possessed of or any way entitled to at the time of my death I desire may be equally divided between my three sons George Isaac and Joseph and also my Brother in Law Swan Downer joint Executors of this my Will and I desire Swan Downer may have fifty pounds for his trouble in this business and I do hereby revoke and make void all other Wills heretofore made by me and do declare this duly to be my last Will and Testament witness my hand and seal this seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and one # George Lowdell # published and declared this last Will of the said George Lowdell in the presence of us who in his presence and in my presence of each other and at his request have set our names as witnesses # Edward Waterer # James Parsons # James Parsons Junior of Great Bookham.

This Will was proved at London the twenty third day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and five before the Worshipful Samuel Pearce Parson Doctor of Laws and Surrogate of the right honourable Sir William Wynne Knight Doctor of Laws Master Keeper of Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of Stephen Lowdell Esq. the brother George Lowdell, Isaac Lowdell and Joseph Coventry Lowdell Esq. the sons and four of the Executors named in the said Will to whom administration was granted of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of the said deceased having been first sworn duly to administer Swan Downer the other Executor having first renounced.

Transcribed by me, Tariq Khan, on 4 June 2009 from a computerised image of Will obtained from the National Archives Catalogue reference prob/11/1428 image reference 275.